

Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 12, 2010

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. This information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. It is our intent to offer this e-newsletter weekly during the 49th Legislature 2nd Regular Session. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Sixth Special Session Adjourned:

On Thursday afternoon, the Sixth Special Session adjourned sine die after passing four bills and one concurrent resolution. Passed during the Special Session:

S1001: Statewide Special Election - authorizes a special election on May 18, 2010 to submit to the voters, constitutional amendments to provide for temporary taxes.

S1003: Revenue Bonds; Lease-Purchase Finance - requires the Arizona Dept. of Administration (ADOA) to issue State Lottery Revenue Bonds and enter into lease-purchase agreements of state owned facilities.

S1004: State Lottery: Authorization - authorizes the state lottery for 25 years (to July 1, 2035).

S1005: Standard Deduction; Nonresident; Prorate - prorates the standard income tax deduction for nonresident taxpayers based on the ratio of Arizona gross income to federal adjusted gross income.

SCR 1001: Temporary Sales Tax; Repeal - subject to voter approval, constitutionally imposes a temporary state Transaction Privilege Tax and use tax for three years.

The Governor has signed S1001, S1004, and S1005. (Note: SCR1001 does not require the Governor's signature.)

The special session resulted in cutting \$750 million from the budget deficit estimated at \$1.4 billion.

6th Special Session Tracking List

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24532&listid=42089&print=true>

State Legislation:

At the end of day thirty two of the 2010 Arizona Legislative Session, 1,230 bills have been posted; 153 memorials or resolutions have been posted, two bills passed and two memorials or resolutions passed.

This week the following actions were filed on legislation tracked by the Council:

H2696: In-Home Personal Care Services Agencies 2/10 referred to the House Health and Human Services, Government Committees.

Hearings posted for next week on bills being tracked by the Council on Aging;

H2132: Medicare Supplement; End-Stage Renal Disease, 2/15/2010 - House Banking and Insurance Committee, 2:00 pm, House Rm. 5

H2242: Reverse Mortgages; Regulations, 2/15/2010 - House Banking and Insurance Committee, 2:00 pm, House Rm. 5

H2276: Access to Agency Data; Legislators, 2/16/2010 - House Government Committee, 2:00 p, House Rm. 4

To view all of the legislation being tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, click on the list below:

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24520&listid=40701&print=true>

Note: The **FULL LIST** website link above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. *This list will be expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills, and we will add new bills to the list on a regular basis.* Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It *does* mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, February 15, 2010.

If you have a particular perspective to share about the budget process or legislation, you can voice your opinions to:

The **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 800-253-0883

Or you may **contact the Legislator from your area**. You can locate your legislator by going to the Arizona State Legislature website <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links at the website.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION:

H.R.4419

Reverse Mortgage Elder Protection Act

H.R. 4419 was introduced on 1/12/2010 by Representative Joe Sestak (PA-7); there are no cosponsors. The intent of the bill is to amend Section 138 of the Truth in Lending Act to establish certain counseling and disclosure requirements with respect to reverse mortgages.

Reverse Mortgage Elder Protection Act - amends the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit a creditor from taking an application for a reverse mortgage unless the creditor has provided the applicant with:

- (1) a specified written cautionary statement before the applicant receives any counseling regarding reverse mortgages;
- (2) a specified written checklist before meeting with a counseling agency about reverse mortgages; and
- (3) a referral to a housing counseling agency for reverse mortgage counseling approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

H.R.4419:

Requires a counseling agency to provide the same kind of written checklist to a consumer that seeks counseling before requesting a loan application for a reverse mortgage. Prohibits a creditor from either accepting a final application for a reverse mortgage, or from assessing any related fees, unless the creditor has received from the consumer or the consumer's authorized representative:

- (1) a written certification that the consumer has received counseling regarding reverse mortgages from a HUD-approved agency; and
- (2) a copy of the prescribed checklist signed by the agency counselor and by the consumer.

On 1/12/2010 the bill was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

If you want more information specific to this or any bill, go to the **Thomas website** <http://www.thomas.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

Contact Your Congressional Member: If you are interested in Congressional bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House or <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the Senate.

Other News:

Administration on Aging is soliciting input regarding the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. To read more about the process and learn how you can participate, go to:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/OAA/Reauthorization/Index.aspx

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Arthritis Foundation launched the first national public health agenda for Osteoarthritis. For more information: <http://www.cdc.gov/arthritis/osteoarthritis.htm>

Information & Resources:

WHAT: 65th Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising Commemoration sponsored by Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post No. 84

WHEN: Saturday, February 20, 2010; 9:00 am; Matthew B. Juan, Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park, Sacaton, AZ

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/IwoJimaFlagRaising2010.pdf>

WHAT: Arizona Living Well - Save the Date!

WHEN: April 9, 2010, 8:00 am 4:00 pm, Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 North Galvin Parkway, Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/documents/legupdates/AZLWI_SVTD_1_19_10.pdf

WHAT: SAVE THE DATE Disability Empowerment Center 2010 Health and Wellness Fair

WHEN: Saturday, April 10, 2010; 10 am 3 pm; Disability Empowerment Center (DEC) 5025 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/HealthWellnessSaveTheDate.pdf>

WHAT: Crime Victims Rights: Fairness, Dignity, Respect - Save the Date

WHEN: April 19, 2010, 9:00 am, Carnegie Center, 1101 West Washington,
Phoenix, AZ 85007

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2010SaveTheDate.pdf>

**WHAT: 22nd Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference, Our Elders:
Living Treasures**

WHEN: April 19-22, 2010, Radisson Ft. McDowell Resort & Casino, 10438 N. Ft.
McDowell Road, Fountain Hills, AZ 85264

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2010AICOASaveTheDate.pdf>

Senior Anti-Crime University

Free classes to learn how to avoid scams, prevent fraud and stay safe:

Senior Anti-Crime University - Phoenix

February 18, 2010

Noon to 4 p.m.

Phoenix at

Tanner Square Office Building

700 East Jefferson Street

Senior Anti-Crime University - Sierra Vista

March 18, 2010

1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sierra Vista at

Cochise College

901 N. Colombo Avenue

Senior Anti-Crime University - Sun Lakes

March 24, 2010

8 a.m. to noon

Sun Lakes at

Chandler-Gilbert Community College

Sun Lakes Center

25105 S. Alma School Road

Senior Anti-Crime University - Green Valley

April 7, 2010

Noon to 4 p.m.

Green Valley at

La Posada

635 Park Centre Avenue

For more information and to register for any of these events, visit this link at the Attorney General's website: <http://www.azag.gov/seniors/sleuths/sacu.html>

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: gaca@az.gov . Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

Thank you and have a good week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging